

## Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of claims replaces all previous listings or versions thereof:

1. (Currently amended) ~~MethodA method~~ for detecting endotoxin, comprising the steps:
  - a) ~~incubation of~~incubating a sample with a bacteriophage tail protein, and
  - b) ~~detection of~~detecting endotoxin bonded to bacteriophage tail proteins.
2. (Currently amended) ~~MethodThe method~~ according to claim 1, if necessary~~further~~ comprising ~~furthermore~~ after step a) and prior to step b) the additional step of:
  - a') ~~separation of~~separating the bacteriophage tail protein-endotoxin complexes from the sample.
3. (Currently amended) ~~MethodThe method~~ according to ~~one of the claims~~claim 1 to 3, ~~the detection being implemented by means of~~wherein detection comprises spectroscopic methods.
4. (Currently amended) ~~MethodA method~~ for removing endotoxin from a sample, comprising the steps:
  - a) ~~incubation of~~incubating a sample with or bringing a sample in contact with bacteriophage tail proteins which are immobilised on a permanent carrier, non specifically or directed,
  - b) ~~separation of~~separating the bacteriophage tail protein-endotoxin complex from the sample.

5. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to claim 4, ~~the~~wherein steps a) and b) ~~being~~are implemented in a chromatography column throughflow method.
6. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to claim 4, wherein the permanent carrier ~~being~~comprises filtration media, glass particles, magnetic particles, centrifugation materials, sedimentation materials or filling materials for chromatography columns.
7. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to claim 4-to-6, the bacteriophage tail proteins being immobilised on the permanent carrier via coupling groups.
8. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to claim 7, the coupling group being a lectin, receptor or anticalin.
9. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to claim 7, wherein the coupling group ~~being~~acomprises streptavidin or avidin and the bacteriophage tail proteins ~~being~~is coupled with biotin or a Strep-tag.
10. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to claim 4-to-6, the bacteriophage tail proteins being immobilised on the permanent carrier covalently via chemical bonds.
11. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the bacteriophage tail protein ~~having~~comprises a Strep-tag or a His-tag.

12. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to claim 11, wherein the tag havingcomprises an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO. 5, 6 or 7.
13. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to claim 11 or 12, wherein the p12 protein of the phage T4 beingis used as bacteriophage tail protein.
14. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~claim 1, wherein the Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration ~~in~~of the incubation beingcomprises 0.1 μM to 10 mM and the Mg<sup>2+</sup> concentration beingcomprises 0.1 μM to 10 mM.
15. (Currently amended) ~~Method~~The method according to one of the ~~claims 1 to 3~~claim 1, marked endotoxin being displaced from the bond with a bacteriophage tail protein and the marked endotoxin being subsequently detected.
16. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the bacteriophage tail protein comprises a Strep-tag or a His-tag.
17. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the tag comprises an amino acid sequence according to SEQ ID NO. 5, 6 or 7.
18. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein the p12 protein of the phage T4 being used as bacteriophage tail protein.